

US Serial No. 09/060,872
Page 2

to the Claims is intended to narrow the scope of any of the amended Claims within the meaning of *Festo*¹.

CLEAN VERSION OF REWRITTEN, ADDED, AND/OR CANCELLED CLAIMS
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.121 (c)(1)(i)

Please cancel Claims 14, 24-28.

Please replace the pending Claims with the following Claims having the same number.

17. (Twice Amended) A method for determining a T-cell epitope of a peptide, comprising the steps of:

- (a) obtaining from a single human blood source a solution of dendritic cells and a solution of naïve CD4+ and/or CD8+ T-cells;
- (b) differentiating said dendritic cells; ;
- (c) combining said solution of differentiated dendritic cells and said naïve CD4+ and/or CD8+ T-cells with the peptide, said peptide comprising said T-cell epitope; and
- (d) measuring proliferation of said T-cells in said step (c).

18. (Twice Amended) A method of reducing the allergenicity of a protein comprising the steps of:

- (a) identifying a T-cell epitope in said protein by
 - (i) contacting an adherent monocyte-derived dendritic cell that has been differentiated [by exposure to at least one cytokine *in vitro*.] with a peptide comprising said T-cell epitope; and
 - (ii) contacting said dendritic cell and peptide with a naïve T-cell, wherein said naïve T-cell has been obtained from the same source as said adherent monocyte-derived dendritic cell, and whereby said T-cell proliferates in response to said peptide; and

¹ *Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kogyo Kabushiki Co.*, No. 95-1066, 2000 WL 1753646 (Fed. Cir. Nov. 29, 2000).

US Serial No. 09/060,872
Page 3

(b) modifying said protein to neutralize said T-cell epitope such that the modified protein induces less than or substantially equal the baseline proliferation of said naïve T-cells.